

# Guyana

## Global Youth Tobacco Survey (GYTS)

### FACT SHEET . . . . .



The Guyana GYTS includes data on prevalence of cigarette and other tobacco use as well as information on five determinants of tobacco use: access/availability and price, environmental tobacco smoke exposure (ETS), cessation, media and advertising, and school curriculum. These determinants are components Guyana could include in a comprehensive tobacco control program.

The Guyana GYTS was a school- based survey of students in form II, form III and form IV,

conducted in 2004. A two-stage cluster sample design was used to produce representative data for all of Guyana. At the first stage, schools were selected with probability proportional to enrollment size. At the second stage, classes were randomly selected and all students in selected classes were eligible to participate. The school response rate was 100%, the student response rate was 78.6%, and the overall response rate was 78.6%. A total of 1230 students participated in the Guyana GYTS.

## Prevalence

32.1% of students had ever smoked cigarettes (Boy = 40.0%, Girl = 22.5%)  
 18.0% currently use any tobacco product (Boy = 21.0%, Girl = 14.1%)  
 11.1% currently smoke cigarettes (Boy = 14.3%, Girl = 7.5%)  
 8.9% currently use other tobacco products (Boy = 10.1 %, Girl = 7.4%)  
 11.3% of never smokers are likely to initiate smoking next year

## Knowledge and Attitudes

32.1% think boys and 20.0% think girls who smoke have more friends  
 11.0% think boys and 9.1% think girls who smoke look more attractive

## Access and Availability - Current Smokers

43.7% usually smoke at home  
 35.2% buy cigarettes in a store  
 \* who bought cigarettes in a store were NOT refused purchase because of their age

## Environmental Tobacco Smoke

33.7% live in homes where others smoke in their presence  
 60.2% are around others who smoke in places outside their home  
 71.4% think smoking should be banned from public places  
 65.8% think smoke from others is harmful to them  
 34.0% have one or more parents who smoke  
 5.3% have most or all friends who smoke

## Cessation - Current Smokers

70.5% want to stop smoking  
 71.8% tried to stop smoking during the past year  
 78.5% have ever received help to stop smoking

## Media and Advertising

78.2% saw anti-smoking media messages, in the past 30 days  
 71.6% saw pro-cigarette ads on billboards, in the past 30 days  
 70.7% saw pro-cigarette ads in newspapers or magazines, in the past 30 days  
 15.4% have an object with a cigarette brand logo  
 14.0% were offered free cigarettes by a tobacco company representative

## School

50.1% had been taught in class, during the past year, about the dangers of smoking  
 33.8% had discussed in class, during the past year, reasons why people their age smoke  
 50.3% had been taught in class, during the past year, the effects of tobacco use

## Highlights

- 18% of students currently use any form of tobacco; 11.1% currently smoke cigarettes; 8.9% currently use some other form of tobacco.
- ETS exposure is high – almost 4 in 10 students live in homes where others smoke in their presence; 6 in 10 are exposed to smoke in public places; more than 3 in 10 have parents who smoke.
- Almost 7 in 10 students think smoke from others is harmful to them.
- Over 7 in 10 students think smoking in public places should be banned.
- Approximately 7 in 10 smokers want to stop smoking.
- Almost 8 in 10 students saw anti-smoking media messages in the past 30 days; 7 in 10 students saw pro-cigarette ads on billboards in the past 30 days.

\* denotes cell size less than 35.